North-East Build Wisconsin Regional Workshop Small Group Record

Small Group C235		(color)
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Top 10 responses to the question: "What can the <u>State</u> do to foster economic growth in your region?"

Priority response #1 (votes: 5) Create a pro-business climate

Priority response #2 (votes: 5) <u>Enable regional higher education to meet emerging local economic</u> needs.

"Actions Necessary to Achieve our Ideas" Exercise

"If we want to accomplish this [priority issue #1], what does "the State" (as defined earlier) have to do now?

Priority Issue #1 Create a pro-business climate.

Responses to the question: "If we want to accomplish this [priority issue], what does "the State" (as defined earlier) have to do now?"

- *Reduce personal income tax rates.
- *Reduce business-related tax rates.
- *Provide tax incentives for job expansion and creation.
- *Stimulate advanced infrastructure. For example, fiber optics.
- *Provide more local controls of tools. For example, tax abatement.
- *Reduce/eliminate/make more flexible regulations. For example, job requirements, TIF regulations, environmental regulations.
- *Hire outside consultants to help DNR deal with labor shortage for permit process.
- *University of Wisconsin can be commissions to research state problems in response to economic needs.
- *Set time limit on permitting process.
- *Develop highway system based on business needs not traffic (death count) needs.
- *Develop small business incubators on new college campuses.
- *Use gas tax money to invest in roads.
- *Increase supply of energy.

- *Develop highways in rural areas.
- *Have regional legislative listening sessions to create policies responsive to our regions.
- *State government should engage business and labor and not be afraid to act their expressed needs. For example, mandated planning starting at local level filtered into regional efforts with performance measures.
- *Term limits for state elected officials.

Priority Issue #2 Enable higher education to meet emerging local economic needs.

Responses to the question: "If we want to accomplish this [priority issue], what does "the State" (as defined earlier) have to do now?"

- *New degree programs should meet specific business needs.
- *University of Wisconsin system should embrace the outcomes of Economic Summit I and II.
- *Identify business and economic needs as they relate to education at UW-Oshkosh and UW-Green Bay.
- *Develop Regional Campus Programming Commission (RCPC) to identify degree programs needed—Plan to put this into a comprehensive delivery system.
- *Identify NEW strong partnerships that can be formed among UW campuses and technical colleges.
- *Identify a campus dedicated to a campus incubator—enhance existing businesses.
- *Seamless transferability of credits among all UW campuses and technical colleges.